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ABSTRACT

This guide to European Community (EC) programs in the fields of education, training, and youth is intended to help interested individuals, projects, and institutions obtain information on the increasing scope of cooperation at the EC level. Section 1 describes programs/actions initiated by the EC's Task Force for Human Resources, Education, and Training and Youth in the following areas: cooperation in the field of education, language teaching, higher and university education, central and Eastern Europe, initial training, continuing training, and youth, as well as exchanges of information and experience regarding education in the EC (information network on education in the European Community--Euridice; study visits for education specialists--Arion; and the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training--Cedefop). Section 2 outlines efforts to achieve mutual recognition of qualifications and diplomas by EC countries. Discussed in section 3 are programs implemented within the framework of other EC policies, including three programs funded by the European Social Fund, experimental training schemes, three programs to promote research, and an initiative to teach European integration at universities. Each program description includes some or all of the following: objectives, role, actions, target group, source(s) of further information, references, and contact point(s). Addresses of offices of the Commission of the European Communities in 12 countries are included. (MN)

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GUIDE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES IN THE FIELDS OF

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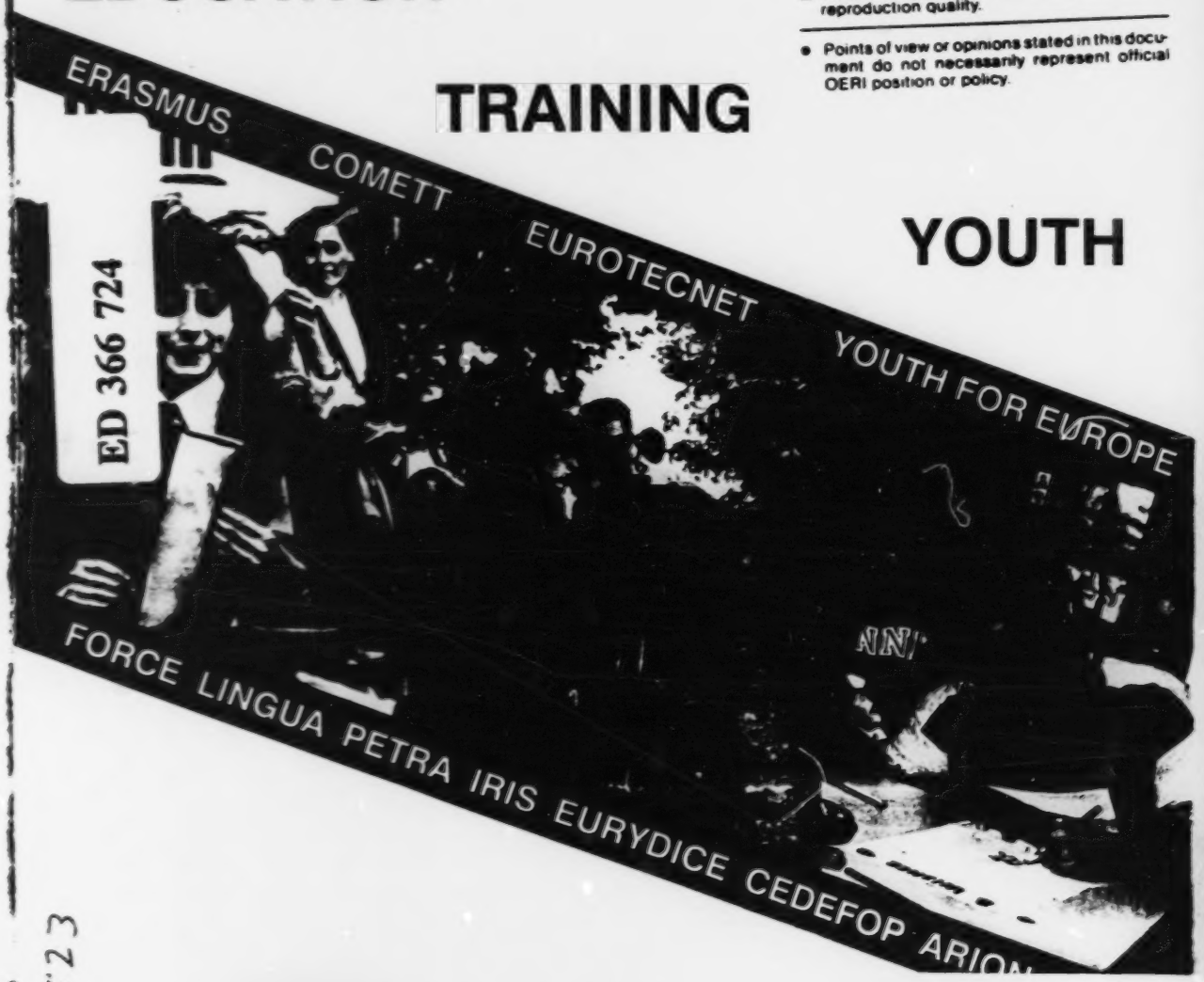

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth

Second edition
BRUSSELS 1993

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INTRODUCTION

This guide was first published in 1989, was acclaimed a great success and was considered to be a concise and reliable source of information on Community programmes and the ways and means of accessing information on such programmes. In the mean time, the range of fields of Community activities has been considerably extended and the Commission's Task Force for Human Resources has therefore decided to publish this second, revised edition of the guide.

A general feeling now exists throughout the European Community that the future of Europe will be determined largely by the creativity, talent and resolve of its citizens. The development of the Community's human resources will depend essentially on measures implemented in the field of education and training by the Member States, supplemented and supported by action on the part of the European Community. The aim must be to make full use of the wealth of diversity in the systems and practices followed in the Community so that the quality of education and training can be enhanced by active cooperation, and the institutions and individual citizens in the Member States can be placed in a position where they can visualize their future in terms of a European dimension.

The single European market, due to take effect in 1993 and which was given new impulse by the agreements on economic and monetary union and political union signed by the Heads of State or Government at Maastricht, offers an opportunity for Europe not only to benefit from an improved economic outlook, but also to become a place in which citizens and workers alike can develop and fully utilize their skills, qualifications and talent for the greater benefit of the Community as a whole.

This guide to Community programmes in the fields of education, training and youth is intended to allow any interested party – private citizens, undertakings, institu-

tions of education and training, teachers – to obtain information on the increasing scope for cooperation at Community level.

Thousands of private citizens, undertakings and institutions are today playing a full part in Community programmes and contributing in a variety of ways to the building of a stronger Europe:

- by assisting in the development of information systems which cover activities and programmes in the field of education and training;
- by studying, undergoing training and conducting research in a Member State other than their own;
- by developing transnational networks to increase the availability of training programmes aimed at young people and workers;
- by organizing joint pilot projects which are aimed at enhancing European competence in fields of critical importance.

The policies and action programmes pursued by the Community in the fields of education, training and youth are thus instrumental in the building of Europe 'in the field' while at the same time enhancing its economic competitiveness and forging its social cohesion.

Hywel C. Jones

Director, TFHR

FOREWORD

NOTE TO THE READER

The development of Community programmes in the fields of education, training and youth involves thousands of private citizens, institutions, teaching establishments, associations, etc. in every Member State.

The catalytic effect of Community programmes on mobility in Europe has *inter alia* led to a rapid increase in requests for information, and channelling these requests to the appropriate information source has often proved difficult.

Existing information structures must adapt, not only to the vast increase in demand for information, but also to general political trends, whether at Community, European or world level. Information strategies will be implemented, in stages, so that these new requirements can be catered for.

This second edition is being published to make information more readily available concerning education, training and youth programmes, as they stand at the present time – a time which is difficult because of the preparations for the move to a single market and a European Economic Area, a development which will forge a link between the EC and the EFTA countries.

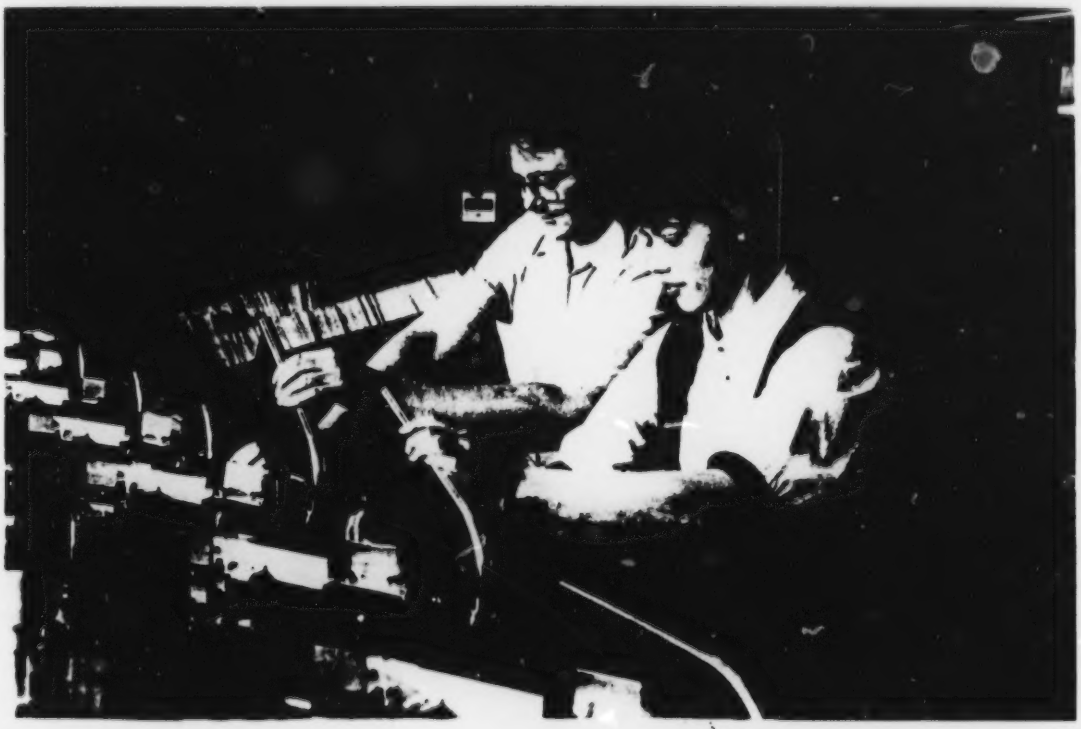
Faced with the multiplicity of contact points and sources of information, whether at local or Community level, or indeed at the level of the individual Member States, the reader can turn to this publication as a reference point for guidance.

We have chosen to guide the reader towards an information source of first instance, namely the Commission's offices in the Member States, which act as a permanent interface between the Commission and the Member States.

We should like to thank the Commission's Directorate-General for Information Technologies and Industries, and Telecommunications and the Commission's offices in the Member States for their support in this venture which is, first and foremost, an attempt to ensure transparency between Europe and its citizens and to bring the two closer together.

1.

PROGRAMMES AND ACTION INITIATED BY THE TASK FORCE FOR HUMAN RESOURCES, EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH



COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

Since the adoption in 1976 of the resolution comprising a first action programme in the field of education, the Member States and the Commission have been active in establishing and expanding cooperation and action programmes in this field. The wide range of subjects covered by the Community programmes and the large number of exchanges at all levels bear this out.

Aims

The guidance provided for Community cooperation in the field of education has related to the development of high-quality education for all and the development of a Europe which is multicultural and in which the European dimension in the teaching and training of teachers will help to engender in young people a feeling of being European. The Europe that young people need is one marked by mobility, for teachers and students alike. The multilingual dimension must become an instrument for dialogue and exchange.

The Member States are convinced of the importance of acquiring a better knowledge of the various education systems to ensure that the Europe of the future will be one marked by mobility. The exchange of information and experience and innovation taking place in the Member States will provide the political decision-makers with a means for taking stock of the progress of education policy in their respective countries, and at the same time the European dimension of cooperation in the field of education can be consolidated.

All these discussions and action programmes are coordinated at Community level by the Education Committee, composed of senior officials from the Member States and the Commission. The Committee is chaired by the Council.

12

Action programmes

- An information network on education and the organization of study visits for specialists: Eurydice and Arion (see 'Exchanges of information and experience', pp. 46 and 48)

- The launching of a number of partnership and pilot exchange schemes between schools, pupils and teachers; arranging contacts between establishments which train teachers.

- Action programmes and discussions are also conducted in fields such as inter-cultural education, the education of children of migrant workers, teacher training, the introduction of new teaching technologies in schools, combating failure at school, etc.

- In close cooperation with other departments within the Commission, the Task Force for Human Resources ensures that education is not neglected in other fields such as the integration of the disabled, equal opportunities for girls and boys at school, problems relating to health and the environment, etc.

Contact points

In the Member States:

- at national level responsibility for the action projects and pilot projects rests with the competent authorities responsible for education (ministries);

- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
European Unit for the Eurydice network,
Rue d'Arlon 15,
B-1040 Brussels.

LINGUA

LANGUAGE TEACHING

LINGUA

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE FOREIGN-LANGUAGE COMPETENCE IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Objectives The objective of the Lingua programme is to promote a quantitative and qualitative improvement in foreign-language competence among Community citizens. The languages involved are Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Irish, Italian, Luxembourgish, Portuguese and Spanish. The measures implemented support and complement the policies pursued by the Member States in the field.

Action The programme has provision for five types of action:

assistance with in-service training courses for teachers of foreign languages and their trainers (Action I);

assistance with foreign-language learning in universities, in particular in connection with initial training of foreign-language teachers (Action II). This action complements another undertaken in the framework of the Erasmus programme, with which it is run in close coordination;

the promotion of foreign languages used at work and in economic life (Action III) by providing assistance for the development of teaching materials and self-learning methods and by stepping up activities targeting the teaching of foreign languages in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs);

assistance with the preparation of exchanges between young people who are undergoing specialized, vocational or technical education (Action IV). These exchanges will be organized through projects involving several establishments;

complementary measures (Action V). These provide support for structures to coordinate and implement the programme in the form of aid for associations or groups of companies at European level involved in promoting the objectives pursued by the Lingua programme and other actions for the dissemination of information on, and the operation and evaluation of, the Lingua programme.

A priority has been set in this programme which provides special support for the teaching and learning of the Community's lesser-used languages.

Target group The programme targets teachers and trainers working in the field of foreign languages (Action I), future foreign-language teachers (Action II), firms and professional organizations (Action III), and young people in the 16 to 25-year age-group undergoing specialized training (Action IV).

Reference Council Decision of 28 July 1989 establishing an action programme to promote the knowledge of foreign languages in the European Community (Lingua). Official Journal L 239 of 16 August 1989.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- all information relating to the implementation of the Lingua programme in the Member States is obtainable from the Lingua agencies;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Lingua Bureau,
Rue du Commerce 10,
B-1040 Brussels.

HIGHER AND UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

NB

The terms 'university education' and 'university' cover all types of post-secondary education and training establishments which offer, where appropriate within the framework of advanced training, qualifications or diplomas of that level, whatever such establishments may be called in the Member States.

ERASMUS

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ACTION SCHEME FOR THE MOBILITY OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

1·8[illegible]

Objectives The main objectives of Erasmus are:

- to increase substantially the number of university students spending a recognized period of study in another Member State of the Community;
- to promote cooperation between institutions of higher education throughout the Community by ensuring greater mobility of teaching staff and thereby improving the quality of education;
- to produce graduates who have personal experience of the situations in other Member States of the Community so that the notion of a 'people's Europe' can be strengthened.

Action Erasmus will promote four types of action to run concurrently and complement each other.

Action 1 The creation of a European **network of university cooperation** comprising institutes of higher education which, within the framework of the programme, have concluded agreements on student and teaching staff exchanges with universities in other Member States and which recognize the study periods thus completed at a university other than that in which the course of study was commenced.

Financial support is available for:

- the setting-up of inter-university cooperation programmes (ICPs) to facilitate student mobility (three to 12 months);
- the organization of mobility schemes for teaching staff (from one week to one year);
- the development of curricula and joint courses of studies between universities in different Member States;
- the creation of short-term intensive programmes on specific topics which bring together teaching staff and students from a number of countries (from one week to one month);

- study visits for teaching staff in higher education.

  Teaching staff and administrative staff at institutions of higher education may qualify for study visit grants covering a maximum of four weeks.

Action 2 **Erasmus student grants' scheme:** direct financial support for students. Erasmus grants (from three to 12 months) are intended to cover the cost of mobility (language courses, travel costs, differences in the cost of living). Priority will be given to students on courses which are part of the European university network.

Action 3 The **ECTS pilot project** (European Community course credit transfer system) is being set up to provide a means by which periods of study completed abroad can be recognized for academic purposes.

In order to promote mobility by the recognition of diplomas and periods of study, the Erasmus programme provides support for the Naric centres (national academic recognition information centres).

Action 4 **Complementary measures:** financial support can be made available to associations or consortia of universities so that information on initiatives in specific fields of higher education can be disseminated. The national and European student associations and/or associations of teaching staff are also eligible for support for specific activities, in particular as regards publications dealing with the subject of mobility.

Eligibility The principal beneficiaries of support under Erasmus are the inter-university cooperation programmes (ICPs) within the context of which a period of study abroad forms an integral and substantial part of a student's university course and for which a series of back-up measures are required: academic preparation and language training, guidance, social integration and student accommodation, etc. Erasmus provides student grants only when

the period of study is fully recognized by the student's home university and when the host university charges no tuition fees and the student remains entitled, for the duration of his period abroad, to any grant or loan to which he would have been entitled in his home country. Erasmus covers all fields of university study. However, certain activities in the field of modern languages are reserved for the Lingua programme. Research activities are not eligible for Erasmus support.

Additional information

Starting with the 1992/93 academic year and following the EC-EFTA Agreement of 28 October 1991, the various activities covered by the Erasmus programme are extended to include the EFTA countries. The eligibility criteria are the same as those for the Member States of the Community. Student mobility within the EFTA countries does not, of course, qualify.

EC-EFTA hybrid committees have been set up to support the Commission and a network of national agencies for awarding Erasmus student grants has been established in the EFTA countries.

References

Council Decision of 15 June 1987 adopting the European Community action scheme for the mobility of university students. Official Journal L 166 of 25 june 1987.

Council Decision of 14 December 1989 amending the above Decision. Official Journal L 395 of 30 December 1989.

Council Decision of 28 October 1991 concerning the conclusion of an agreement between the European Economic Community and (name of EFTA country concerned) establishing cooperation in the field of education and training in the framework of the Erasmus programme. Official Journal L 332 of 3 December 1991.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- to obtain further information on grants, students should contact their university or the national Erasmus grant awarding agency in their country;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Erasmus Bureau,
Rue Montoyer 70,
B-1040 Brussels.

COMETT

COOPERATION PROGRAMME BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES
AND ENTERPRISES FOR EDUCATION
AND TRAINING FOR TECHNOLOGY

COMETT

Objectives The main objective of the Comett programme is the improvement of training in advanced technology, the development of highly qualified human resources and the enhancement of the competitiveness of European industry.

To achieve this objective it will be necessary to:

- give a European dimension to cooperation between universities and enterprises (in other words all branches of the economy) as regards initial and continuing training in the field of technology;
- widen the range of individual experience by encouraging students to undertake traineeships in firms and by setting up a system of links between industry and universities (staff exchanges, etc.);
- develop powerful systems and training courses so that most recent achievements in hi-tech R&D can be incorporated;
- promote equal opportunities between men and women as regards initial and continuing training in technology.

Action Comett represents a series of transnational actions designed to strengthen and encourage cooperation between universities and enterprises. The projects fall within one of four complementary strands:

Strand A The **university-enterprise training partnerships (UETPs)** develop cooperation in the field of training for technology, in order to strengthen cooperation and inter-regional transfers between Member States and to stimulate transnational interaction in all sectors. This strand is in-

tended to assist with the development and implementation of projects falling within other strands of the Comett programme.

Strand B **Transnational exchanges** between students, company employees and university staff. The Community bears the cost of direct and indirect expenditure in connection with mobility for:

- students who, as part of their studies, are completing a traineeship of three to 12 months' duration in a firm located in another Member State;
- students and graduates who, before starting their first job, wish to complete a period of advanced training in an enterprise, the duration of which may range from six months to two years;
- university staff and company employees.

Strand C Joint training projects at European level in the field of technology. The Community provides support for three types of transnational project organized by universities and enterprises:

- short-duration intensive training courses to ensure rapid dissemination of results and applications of R&D in the new technologies and their introduction within SMEs;
- the development of joint projects by enterprises and universities in the field of training;
- the development of distance learning systems using multimedia aids.

Strand D Additional measures including support for preparatory visits, information campaigns and programme evaluation.

Target group Comett targets students, people who have completed their initial training, university staff and company employees, management and labour and the training instructors concerned.

Additional information The Comett programme was launched to cover the period 1987 to 1989. Comett II, covering the period 1990-94, is open to participants from the EFTA countries. The Community signed bilateral agreements to this effect with Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

References

Council Decision of 24 July 1986 adopting the programme on cooperation between universities and enterprises regarding training in the field of technology (Comett, 1986-89). Official Journal L 222 of 8 August 1986.

Council Decision of 16 December 1988 adopting the second stage of the programme on cooperation between universities and enterprises regarding training in the field of technology (Comett II, 1990-94). Official Journal L 13 of 17 January 1989.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

students may apply for a Comett II traineeship:

- either through the agency of the institute of higher education they are attending,
- or through the UETP (university enterprise training partnership) listed by the Comett information centres in each country;

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Comett Technical Assistance Unit,
Rue Montoyer 14,
B-1040 Brussels.

CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

TEMPUS

TEMPUS

A TRANS-EUROPEAN MOBILITY SCHEME FOR UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Objectives The purpose of Tempus is to assist the development and restructuring of university education systems in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and to encourage their continued integration and cooperation with partners in the Community by means of mobility and cooperation schemes. The programme covers activities relating to Albania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Czechoslovakia. Intended to meet the specific requirements of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, it is a programme which has been broadly based on the structure of other Community programmes, such as Erasmus, Comett and Lingua.

In the pursuit of its objectives Tempus mainly supports joint teaching and training projects relating to:

- the structural development of university education: the establishment of new universities and the restructuring of existing ones, upgrading infrastructure, and encouraging universities to cooperate with industry;
- the development of teaching programmes: continuing training programmes and refresher courses, short intensive courses, and the development of distance learning systems;
- the planning and organization of mobility programmes for teaching staff and students.

Action The programme covers action of three types:

- joint European projects (JEPs), which involve at least one university per eligible country participating, one university from a Member State of the Community and a partner institution (university or enterprise) in another Member State of the Community. The countries of the Group of Twenty-Four (member countries of the OECD) are encouraged to participate
- individual mobility grants for teaching staff, instructors and administrative staff. The grants are aimed at encouraging participation in practical traineeships in enterprises, periods of continuing training and refresher courses for university staff;
- supplementary activities relating to support for European university associations, information activities and publications, studies, surveys and youth exchanges.

Target group The Tempus programme targets 'universities' and 'enterprises' in eligible countries and Member States of the Community. The terms 'enterprise' and 'industry' are used to cover all types of economic activity, including not only large but also small and medium-sized enterprises (whatever their legal status), public and local authorities, independent economic organizations, in particular chambers of commerce and industry and/or the equivalent, professional associations and organizations representing employers or employees.

The programme is also intended for the use of teaching staff, instructors and administrative staff, students, young people in general and youth workers.

Reference Council Decision of 7 May 1990 establishing a trans-European mobility scheme for university studies (Tempus). Official Journal L 131 of 23 May 1990.

Contact points *In the Member States and eligible countries:*

- requests for information may be forwarded to the national Tempus bureau in the eligible countries;

☐ the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

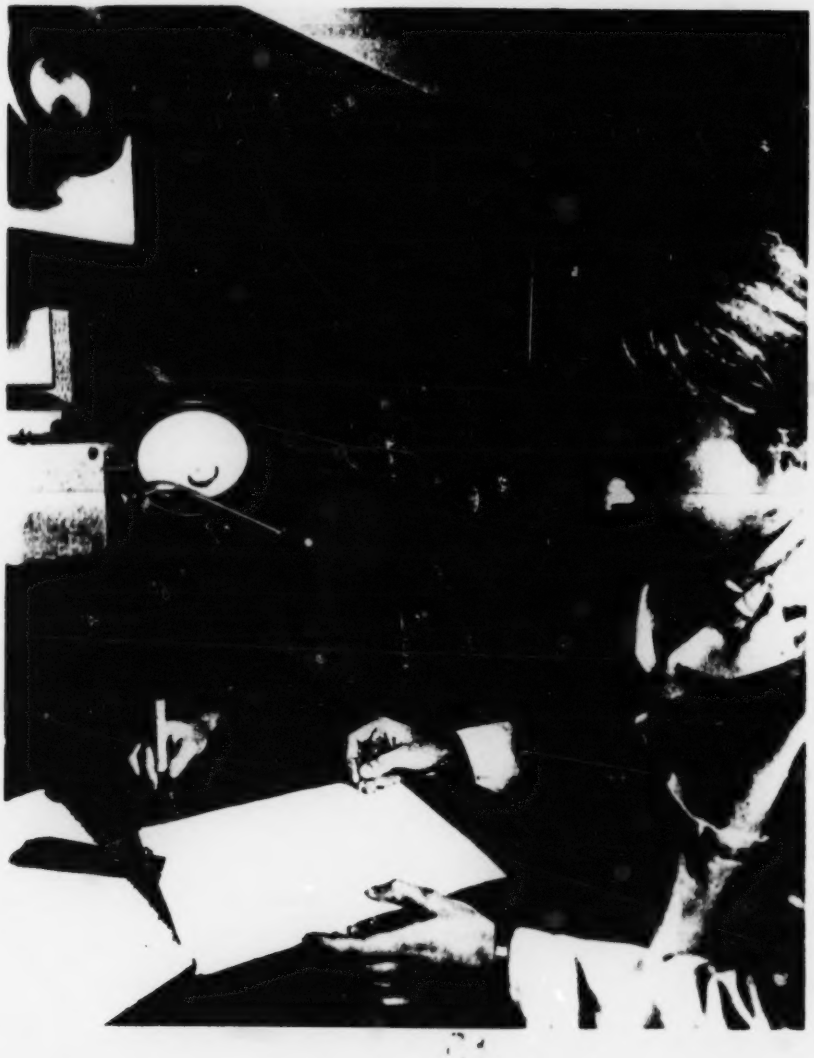
At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Tempus Bureau,
Rue Montoyer 14,
B-1040 Brussels.

INITIAL TRAINING

PETRA

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR PREPARATION FOR ADULT AND WORKING LIFE



Objectives The Petra programme is aimed at helping the Member States to:

- ensure that all young people who so wish receive one or, if possible, two or more years' vocational training upon completion of their compulsory education;
- raise the standard and quality of initial training and improve the preparation of young people for adult and working life, and continuing training;
- diversify training so as to make it suitable for all young people and ensure that it leads to recognized qualifications;
- enhance the capacity of training systems to adapt to economic, social and technological changes.

PETRA

Action

- **Placements for young people.** As part of the second stage of the programme the Commission provides financial support for young people wishing to undergo training or obtain a traineeship in an enterprise in another Member State. Some 100 000 young trainees and workers will qualify for assistance under this part of the programme during the three-year period 1992-94.
- **Vocational guidance.** The programme will also simplify the exchange of data relating to vocational guidance and the training of counsellors and guidance specialists.
- **The European network of training partnerships.** This network brings together training schemes with common centres of interest. The projects are to establish transnational partnerships on their own initiative and so ensure that the activities assume a European dimension. They will organize exchanges for young people and trainers and ensure an exchange of data as well as carrying out joint activities in the field of training. The training projects will be administered by local, regional or national authorities aided by vocational training services and partners representing employers and employees, enterprises and trade unions. The network will devote particular attention to pro-

jects aimed at setting up joint training modules and at the training of instructors.

- **The youth initiative projects.** The Commission will provide financial support for initiatives organized by and catering for young people to help them find work and develop their independence, their creativity and entrepreneurial skills. The initiatives relate to such fields as information, job creation, training, and personal and social development as well as actions specifically targeting young people encountering difficulties.

- **Research cooperation.** The aim of this part of the Petra programme is to foster – through studies and transnational partnerships – cooperation relating to research on the effectiveness of Member States' training policies on initial vocational training. Research institutes designated by the Member States will set up cooperative ventures in a number of fields. For the period 1991-93 the areas to be targeted are the quality of sandwich courses, programming models for initial training at regional level, the effectiveness of new ideas for initial training, and the impact of training tools such as 'learning entrepreneurial skills'.

Target group The programme is targeted at young people under the age of 28 who have completed their full-time compulsory education and wish to acquire or complete their initial vocational training other than at a university. Instructors, teachers of technical and vocational subjects and guidance counsellors are also eligible for support from Petra.

References

- Council Decision of 1 December 1987 concerning an action programme for the vocational training of young people and their preparation for adult and working life. Official Journal L 346 of 10 december 1987.

- Council Decision 91/387/EEC of 21 July 1991. Official Journal L 214 of 2 August 1991.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- requests for information can be forwarded to the national coordination units for the Petra programme;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

PETRA

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Petra/Jeunesse Bureau,
Place du Luxembourg 2-3,
B-1040 Brussels.

CONTINUING TRAINING

FORCE

ACTION PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTINUING VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Objectives The main aim of Force is to improve the availability and quality of continuing vocational training for workers in undertakings. The programme's objectives are to:

- encourage greater effort and more effective investment in continuing vocational training;
- promote the widespread adoption of good practice in continuing vocational training and to encourage innovative approaches;
- support transnational projects in the field of continuing training, particularly in the run-up to the internal market;
- contribute to the greater effectiveness of continuing vocational training mechanisms.

FORCE

Action Force provides support for the following transnational measures:

- an exchange programme aimed at managerial staff in human resources' departments, staff representatives in enterprises, instructors, in particular in SMEs, training specialists for regional consortia and the professional organizations and trade unions;
- the development of pilot projects targeting undertakings, which are intended to promote the transfer of knowledge and skills within the Community by affording priority to the requirements of small and medium-sized undertakings whilst taking account of the greater scope offered by the completion of the internal market;
- the launching of projects relating to forecasting the requirements of undertakings in terms of qualifications and training (or sectoral requirements);

- sectoral surveys by experts relating to human resources and plans for continuing training;
- action aimed at improving the information base of decision-makers in the field of continuing training, and defining policies and priorities for financial assistance. This actions relates to the production of internationally comparable data, a review of current policy and Europe-wide statistical surveys of undertakings.

These measures will be followed up by national reports from the Member States describing existing instruments for promoting and funding continuing vocational training.

The programme is centred on transnational partnerships and on the setting-up of a network to test, evaluate and disseminate information on innovative approaches and examples of good practice which meet the real needs of undertakings and employees. The projects which Force assists are also intended to improve the access of workers to continuing vocational training, in particular in those sectors or regions in which it is not properly adapted at the moment.

Target group The programme is targeted at undertakings, employers' associations and trade unions, public authorities and training bodies.

Reference Council Decision of 29 May 1990 establishing an action programme for the development of continuing vocational training in the European Community (Force). Official Journal L 156 of 26 June 1990.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- information may be obtained from the national Force coordination units;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
The Force Technical Assistance Unit,
Rue du Nord 34,
B-1000 Brussels.

FORCE

EUROTECNET

COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMME IN THE FIELD OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE

Objective The aim of Eurotecnet is to promote innovation in the field of initial vocational training and continuing training to take account of technological change and the impact of such change on employment, labour and qualifications.

Action A network of national and transnational innovative projects for the exchange of experience and information. Projects are selected on the basis of their potential knock-on effect and their transferability from one Member State to another. They relate to the development of the curriculum, technology transfer and the active involvement of industrial employers in the promotion and training for new technologies.

The programme has provision for three other types of measure:

- the promotion of innovative approaches and methods such as the development of programmes for instructors, the setting-up of European partnerships in the field of technological training;
- studies and analyses of a number of aspects of training;
- information and dissemination campaigns: conferences, round tables, publications, etc.

Part of this action is being carried out in close cooperation with the Euroform programme which is designed to create transnational partnerships in the field of qualifications.

Target group The programme is targeted at administrative departments and individuals (in undertakings or the public sector) responsible for vocational training to cater for the new technologies in specific economic sectors: agriculture, construction, services, and engineering.

Reference Council Decision of 18 December 1989 establishing an action programme to promote innovation in the field of vocational training resulting from technological change in the European Community (Eurotecnet). Official Journal L 393 of 30 December 1989.

EUROTECNET

Contact points *In the Member States:*

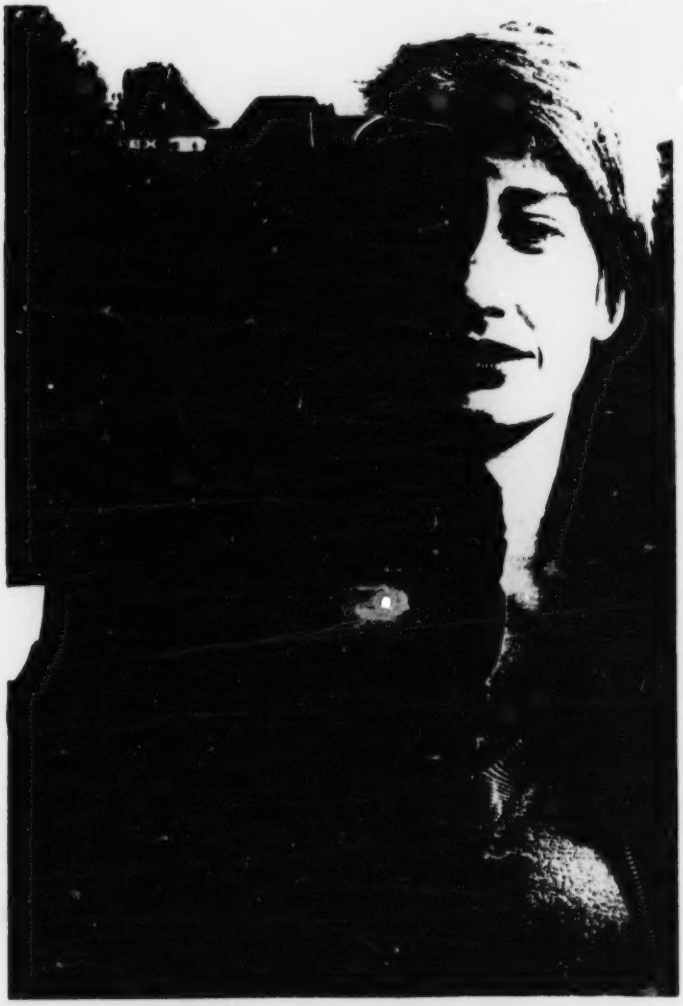
information may be obtained from the national representatives of the Consultative Committee on Continuing Training. A list of the names of the national representatives is available from the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81);

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Eurotecnet Technical Assistance Unit,
Rue des Deux Eglises 37,
B-1040 Brussels.

IRIS

COMMUNITY NETWORK OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR WOMEN



Objectives The aim of IRIS is to:

- increase the availability of high-quality training programmes for women;
- increase knowledge of women's needs regarding training, promote the exchange of information, methods and experience, develop cooperation and identify partners;
- evaluate and develop training programmes catering for women's needs;
- encourage the participation of employers and trade unions.

Action IRIS organizes visits for the members of the network and encourages the setting-up of transnational partnerships. Every year it organizes four national seminars and one transnational seminar to study strategy and policy in the field of training. Other action undertaken relates to the dissemination of information in the form of publications and the setting-up of a database to provide information on the programmes offered by the members of IRIS.

Target group All vocational training programmes catering for women are eligible to be members of IRIS as well as mixed programmes containing a pre-training element. The IRIS network comprises all types of training programme: small private projects and large-scale public programmes, and covers all sectors and all types of employment.

Reference Recommendation of the Commission of the European Communities of 24 November 1987 concerning vocational training for women. Official Journal L 342 of 4 December 1987.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General V
IRIS Unit CREW,
Rue de la Tourelle 21,
B-1040 Brussels.

IRIS

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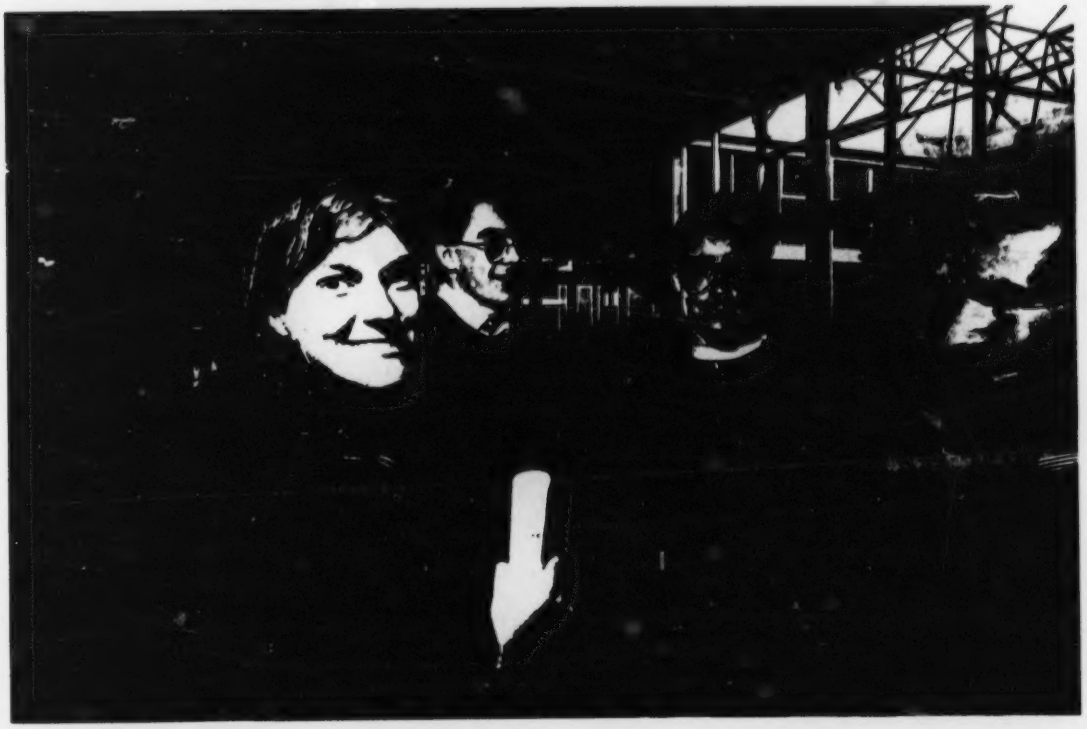
YOUTH FOR EUROPE

YOUTH FOR EUROPE



Objectives Youth for Europe is intended to promote youth exchanges for young people living in the Community aged between 15 and 25 years of age which do not fall within mainstream education and vocational training. These exchanges will gradually allow a network covering all 12 Member States to take shape.

The meetings, which must last at least one week, bring together young people from different social, economic and cultural backgrounds so that they can gain first-hand knowledge of life in the host country, establish transnational cooperation links and become aware of the fact that they all belong to one and the same European area.

Action The Youth for Europe programme:

- supports exchange projects and youth mobility programmes. The projects must offer scope for young people from different social backgrounds to mix so that by virtue of their meeting and their exchange of ideas they will be able to gain first-hand experience of what is meant by the European dimension.

  These exchange projects, which should, as far as possible, be organized by the young people themselves, require a preparatory stage in which young people should be involved. Moreover, the project should include an evaluation of the effects of the exchange, which could take the form of an assessment of any cooperation link established, the personal enrichment of those taking part, and the life of the group dynamic.

  Priority will be given to exchange projects which cater for regions in which few such opportunities are customarily available, outlying regions or regions in which minority languages are spoken, as well as projects targeting young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Accordingly, one-third of the funds available will be reserved for exchanges targeting these young people.

  By way of a trial, transnational projects aimed at involving young people in voluntary service in another Member State, which does not constitute an alternative to military service, will qualify for support.

- study visits and vocational training schemes for youth workers.

Youth for Europe is a programme which operates on a decentralized basis and most of the action is therefore organized by local national agencies nominated by each Member State. These agencies also act as information and advice centres for the groups targeted by the Community programme's various measures.

References

- Council Decision of 16 June 1988 adopting an action programme for the promotion of youth exchanges in the Community (Youth for Europe). Official Journal L 158 of 26 June 1988.

- Council Decision of 29 July 1991 adopting the Youth for Europe programme (second phase). Official Journal L 217 of 6 August 1991.

YOUTH FOR EUROPE

Contact points

In the Member States:

- information is obtainable from the national Youth for Europe agencies;

- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Petra/Jeunesse Bureau,
2-3 place du Luxembourg,
B-1040 Brussels.

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EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE

Information network on education and study visits for education specialists:

Eurydice and Arion

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training:

Cedefop

FOR EUROPE

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EURYDICE

INFORMATION NETWORK ON EDUCATION IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

Objectives The Eurydice network promotes the exchange of information on national systems and policies and Community action in the field of education. It is thus instrumental in stepping up cooperation between the Member States and preparing initiatives at national and Community level.

Action Eurydice collects information from surveys and sets up databases to allow education authorities to gain access directly to the central database on education. Eurydice also carries out comparative studies, disseminates information from the Member States and informs the Member States on action being conducted at Community level.

EURYDICE

Target group The survey-based system is available for use by the education authorities. The data collected are provided when requested. Eurydice also prepares and distributes publications dealing with education and targeting a wider readership.

Further information The network comprises 15 units located within, or working closely with, the education authorities in the Member States. The European Unit ensures coordination and stimulates exchanges through the network. It supplies technical assistance for the Community programme on cooperation in education.

References

- Resolution of the Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council of 9 February 1976 comprising an action programme in the field of education. Official Journal C 38 of 19 February 1976.
- Resolution of the Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council of 16 December 1990 concerning the Eurydice education information network in the European Community. Official Journal C 329 of 31 December 1990.

Contact points

In the Member States:

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Eurydice,
European Unit,
Rue d'Arlon 15,
B-1040 Brussels.

ARION

PROGRAMME OF STUDY VISITS FOR EDUCATION SPECIALISTS

Objectives To allow specialists and those with responsibility in the education sector to improve their knowledge of developments in education policy and systems in other Member States. Information exchanges on experience and innovation will enhance the contribution they can make to the development of education policy in their own country.

Action Study visits of one week organized for groups of 12 persons to various Member States; 850 study grants are awarded every year by the Commission for persons designated by the Member States. The study visits are based on themes spread over the various groups: education and education values; persons active in the field of education; education and education tools; education and education environment; other subjects.

Target group Administrators, inspectors, headteachers, teacher trainers, counsellors and, in certain cases, teachers and even parents. They all have various responsibilities at national, regional or local level with regard to primary and secondary education. The study visits are evenly spread throughout the Community.

References Resolution of the Council and the Ministers for Education meeting within the Council of 9 February 1976 comprising an action programme in the field of education. Official Journal C 38 of 19 February 1976.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- responsibility for organizing this action rests normally with the Ministry of Education;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth:
Arion Programme Assistance Unit,
Pädagogischer Austauschdienst,
KMK Sekretariat,
Nassestraße 8,
D-W-5300 Bonn 1.

CEDEFOP

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Objectives Cedefop is a Community body whose task is to promote the development of vocational training at Community level. The Council of Ministers of the European Community took the decision to establish the European centre in February 1975. The Cedefop management board comprises representatives of the Commission, together with representatives of workers' organizations, employers' organizations and governments. The management board adopts the work programme, draws up and approves the budget and adopts the annual report.

Role The institutional tasks of Cedefop are threefold: information, research and consultation.

- **Information:** Information on vocational training is one of the centre's basic tasks. Its documentation centre and library 'and constantly updated bibliographical database, receive information from a network of national correspondents. This information is made available to a wide audience, in part via computer links. Numerous publications – research reports, monographs, manuals, periodic bulletins, etc. – are distributed by Cedefop.
- **Research:** As a centre for the promotion and coordination of research within the Community, Cedefop provides the expertise and the encouragement necessary for the planning and implementation of vocational training initiatives in the Member States. In so doing, the centre serves as a focal point for innovation.

- **Consultation:** As an organization supporting the Commission departments, Cedefop has the task of promoting a concerted approach to vocational training problems. It takes every opportunity to arrange meetings of all social bodies playing a significant part in the field of training.

Reference Council Regulation of 10 February 1975 establishing a European centre for the development of vocational training. Official Journal L 39 of 13 February 1975.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- information and documentation are exchanged by the documentation network agencies of Cedefop;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Cedefop,
Bundesallee 22,
D-W-1000 Berlin 15.

2.

RECOGNITION OF DIPLOMAS

COMPARABILITY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Objective

A large single market in which Europeans can move freely and establish themselves in the Member State of their choice seems pointless if the vocational qualifications are not mutually recognized. It is for this reason that the Community has adopted a system for the mutual recognition of higher education diplomas for professional purposes and has just completed this with a second general system for the recognition of vocational qualifications which covers the vocational qualifications as yet neither covered by the first general system nor by a system of sectorial recognition, i.e., aimed at a specific profession or at a group of professions.

Higher education lasting a minimum of three years

On 21 December 1988 the Council adopted a Directive on a general system for the recognition of higher education diplomas awarded on completion of professional education and training of at least three years' duration. The Directive is based on the idea that the Community citizen who is considered able to pursue a profession in one Member State must also be considered able to pursue the same profession in another Member State. The Directive, which came into force on 4 January 1991, contains provision for the recognition by all Member States of the diplomas awarded by other Member States for the same profession. Other features of the Directive are:

- ☐ its general nature in that it defines the rules and sets up a procedure to cater for the needs of all who, having qualifications in higher education, wish to pursue a profession in a location other than the one in which they underwent their training;

- its system based on the comparability of training levels: university level training courses are largely similar and therefore comparable. The Directive states, however, that under certain circumstances the host country may require compensatory measures reflecting professional experience or an aptitude test to be taken or, alternatively, a period as a trainee to be completed;

- enhanced cooperation between the Member States: information exchange, and the use of the network operated by the national information centres; coordination of activities conducted by the national authorities are fundamental to the success of the procedure established;

- its adaptability: it is possible to redefine the field of application in the light of operational experience.

Vocational training not yet covered by another directive

Using the same approach, in 1989, the Commission of the European Communities proposed to complement this first Directive with a second general system for the recognition of vocational training. This second Directive was adopted by the Council on 18 June 1992. Bearing in mind the transposition period of two years, it will come into effect on 18 June 1994.

This second Directive applies to regulated professions and activities which were not covered by the first Directive or by any specific directive ensuring the mutual recognition of diplomas amongst Member States (e.g. midwives, nurses) or by a 'transnational' directive (e.g. trade, industry, arts and crafts). It basically covers post-secondary level training of two or three years' duration and also certain specifically structured training programmes ('diplomas' in the context of this second Directive) as well as secondary level training programmes ('certificates').

Two mechanisms make it easier for a profession to be pursued in another Member State

- The year 1984 saw the setting-up of the European network of national information centres on the recognition of diplomas and academic titles (Naric) (and not on the recognition of vocational qualifications to which such diplomas refer). The aim of this network is to simplify the procedure for recognizing diplomas and parts of courses of study so that students and academic staff can pursue or continue their studies in a different Member State. Naric is currently an integral part of the Erasmus programme, which started operating on a voluntary trial basis in 1989 for a period of six years to review the scope for the setting-up of a European Community course credit transfer system (ECTS). This system will allow credits to be obtained for courses completed in universities in other Member States.

- The comparability of vocational qualifications. Assisted by Cedefop, the Commission has drawn up lists of comparable qualifications and these lists are published in the Official Journal. Up to the time of writing, comparability of qualifications has been established between the 12 Member States for professions in the following sectors: hotels and catering, automobile maintenance, building, electrical engineering, agriculture, horticulture, forestries, textiles and clothing. Work on the comparability of qualifications in metallurgy, chemistry and business are under consideration. The lists of comparable qualifications are provided for information purposes only but they can be helpful in connection with the freedom of movement for workers.

References

- Council Directive (89/48/EEC) of 21 December 1988 relating to a general system for the recognition of higher education diplomas which validate vocational training of a minimum of three years' duration. Official Journal L 19 of 24.1.1989.

- Council Directive (92/51/EEC) of 18 June relating to a second general system for the recognition of vocatio-

nal training complementing Directive 89/48/EEC. Official Journal L 209, 24.7.1992.

- Council Decision of 16 July 1985 on the comparability of vocational training qualifications between the Member States of the European Community. Official Journal L 199, 31.7.1985.

- Council resolution of 18 December 1990 on the comparability of vocational training qualifications. Official Journal C 109, 24.4.1991.

Contact points

In the Member States:

- information about the general system for the recognition of higher education diplomas for professional purposes can be obtained from the relevant bodies within Member States (e.g. ministries). It should be remembered that the general system includes the provision that the final diploma of a Community national be recognized in other Member States if the diploma is for the same profession for which the person has trained in his/her Member State of origin or of residence. The principle is related as much to the recognition as it is to the diploma. In certain cases, which are outlined in the Directive, a period of additional or complementary professional experience, or a period of adaptation or an aptitude test, may be requested by the host Member State;

- information on the academic recognition of diplomas – in other words the conditions governing admittance to university or to other institutes of higher education in consideration of the qualifications obtained previously in another Member State – are obtainable from the Naric centres;

- information on the list of comparable professional qualifications (lists provided for information purposes only) are obtainable from Cedefop;

- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

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At Community level:

- Directorate-General III of the Commission of the European Communities (Rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels) is responsible for coordinating the application of the Directive on the general system for the recognition of higher education diplomas for professional purposes. The same is true for the second general system when it takes effect.
- The Erasmus Bureau (Rue Montoyer 70, B-1040 Brussels) is responsible for coordinating, for the Commission, action launched within the framework of the Naric network at the ECTS system.
- Cedefop (Bundesallee 22, D-W-1000 Berlin 15) assists the Commission with the drawing-up of lists of comparable vocational qualifications.

3.

PROGRAMMES IMPLEMENTED IN THE FRAMEWORK OF OTHER COMMUNITY POLICIES

SOCIAL POLICY – EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND

The European Social Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund are the European Community's basic structural funds.

The reform of the funds, which was commenced in 1989, has led to their restructuring so that they can be more closely geared to the requirements of the economic and social cohesion marking the creation of the internal market. The restructuring exercise concerned a series of common objectives:

- to promote the development of underdeveloped regions;
- to facilitate the reconversion of industrial regions in decline;
- to combat long-term unemployment;
- to promote the entry into the labour market of young people seeking their first job;
- to promote the development of rural areas.

The reform of the structural funds gave the Commission an opportunity to set out its ideas on employment and put forward new Community initiatives. These initiatives will establish a transnational framework for the exchange of experience, launch common action in a number of Member States, set up new Community links and develop innovative action programmes.

Having received favourable opinions from the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the European Social Fund, composed of representatives of national governments, employers and employees, the Commission has adopted three Community initiatives in the field of human resources, namely Euroform, NOW and Horizon. These initiatives have been allocated an

overall amount of ECU 600 million and will run until 1993.

Euroform relates to new vocational qualifications, and the new responsibilities and opportunities for employment offered by the single market. The Community budget has provision for some ECU 300 million to be committed to finance this initiative.

NOW is aimed at promoting equal opportunities and the integration of women into employment and vocational training. Some ECU 120 million of the Community budget has been allocated to this initiative.

Horizon is intended to improve access for disabled people and certain disadvantaged groups and render the labour market accessible to them. ECU 180 million has been allocated from the Community budget to fund this initiative.

EUROFORM

Objectives The aim of Euroform is to:

- give a European dimension to vocational training programmes and employment promotion programmes;
- promote convergence of vocational capacities, particularly in underdeveloped regions and other regions, as well as to promote the mobility of workers in terms of their employment and the location of their employment;
- develop transnational action relating to vocational qualifications and competence required and available in the labour market.

Action The action takes the form of the preparation, completion, evaluation and dissemination of information on joint action in the fields of training and employment promotion. Specifically, this involves the preparation of studies and actions relating to methods and products in the field of training, whilst at the same time ensuring that account is taken of the Community dimension of the training and labour market. Joint action is carried out by transnational partnerships formed between various parties involved in vocational training.

Target group

- The long-term unemployed and young people throughout the Community;
- Persons employed in small and medium-sized undertakings, those unemployed or threatened with unemployment and residing in regions covered by Objectives 1, 2 and 5 of the structural funds;

- Persons under contract as apprentices (apprenticeship being understood as tuition involving theoretical aspects) and persons undergoing training under national vocational training schemes in industrially underdeveloped regions (Objective 1 of the structural funds);
- The working population as a whole in so far as it is targeted by a programme being implemented in underdeveloped regions (Objective 1 of the structural funds).

Additional information To enhance the transnational character of the Euroform action, operators may work with regional consortia or local, sectoral or technological groupings set up by parties with responsibilities in the field of vocational training and employment policy. The consortia must be established with the aim of setting up transnational partnerships.

Reference Commission communication to the Member States. Official Journal C 327 of 29 December 1990.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- requests for information regarding the availability of the assistance offered by this initiative may be addressed to the government departments responsible for the European Social Fund;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General V,
(Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs),
ESF Directorate (V/D/I),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

NOW

NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

Objectives This initiative within the context of the structural funds forms an integral part of the third programme on equal opportunities for men and women. Its aim is to give new and added value to and promote women's qualifications, as well as to assist in a change of the enterprise culture to enable them to create their own enterprises or cooperatives. NOW is also intended to assist the reinsertion of women into the regular labour market and to avoid women's work being of a precarious nature.

Action

- The creation of small businesses and cooperatives by women: Community assistance is made available to vocational training and preparatory training, geared specifically to the needs of undertakings and the creation of self-employed activities, as well as services, providing women with access to existing structures with the aim of setting-up small businesses or craft activities.
- Professional reintegration: Community assistance is made available for guidance and counselling activities aimed at helping with professional reintegration as well as preliminary training and vocational training, including employment promotion measures.
- Complementary measures linked directly to the above, which target the development of childcare facilities and the enhancing of training facilities for the childcare workers.

It should be remembered that a number of the abovementioned actions are restricted to regions which are underdeveloped (Objective 1 of the structural Funds).

Target group

- ☐ Women throughout the Community, of any age, who are part of the long-term unemployed.
- ☐ Women who wish to re-enter the labour market in any part of the Community after a long period of absence.
- ☐ Women employed in small and medium-sized enterprises, unemployed or threatened with unemployment in the less-developed regions, regions in decline or agricultural regions.
- ☐ In an integrated context (in other words using the Regional Fund and the Social Fund provisions) all women living in deprived regions.

Reference Commission communication to the Member States. Official Journal C 327 of 29 december 1990.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- ☐ requests for information regarding the availability of the assistance measures offered by this initiative may be addressed to the government departments responsible for the European Social Fund;
- ☐ the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General V
(Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs),
ESF Directorate (V/D/I),
Rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels.

HORIZON

Objectives The aim of the Horizon initiative is the occupational integration of disabled people and disadvantaged groups in all areas of the economy by improving their competitiveness and the conditions governing their access to the labour market.

With a view to integrating the disadvantaged into the labour market and society as a whole, the NOW initiative aims at strengthening local resources for action and drawing up a network for the exchange of experience at Community level.

Action The Community initiative aims through transnational action to improve the conditions for the disabled to gain access to the labour market and boost the competitiveness of the disabled and ease their integration into the labour market. The transnational partnership must include at least one partner from an underdeveloped region (Objective 1).

Action on behalf of the disadvantaged relates to the setting-up of pilot projects developed in the framework of transnational partnerships. In the particular case of persons facing a new socioeconomic environment the Community aims to support action promoting employment, vocational training, guidance and counselling relating to socioeconomic integration, including the acquisition of language skills and other measures destined to facilitate their installation.

Target group The Community initiative targets persons with serious handicaps resulting from physical or mental impairments

as well as persons suffering from specific difficulties which hinder or act as a brake on their economic and social integration, as well as the long-term unemployed and poorly educated young people.

Reference Commission communication to the Member States. Official Journal C 327 of 29 December 1990.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- requests for information regarding the availability of the assistance measures offered by this initiative may be addressed to the government departments responsible for the European Social Fund;
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General V
(Employment, Industrial Relations and Social Affairs),
ESF Directorate (V/D/I),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

EXPERIMENTAL TRAINING SCHEMES

Objectives The objectives pursued are threefold:

- to train managers of SMEs to develop strategic management techniques in the run-up to 1992;
- to encourage regional or sectoral studies to be carried out on the impact of the single market so that awareness can be heightened in SMEs and they can be trained for the Europe of 1992;
- information on experience can be disseminated through a network of counselling/training organizations.

Action The Commission launched an action programme in 1989 aimed at enabling representatives of SMEs to gain knowledge of the substantial changes in the European economy that will take place once the internal market has been completed. Experimental schemes were launched in 1989.

The first project concerned the training of managers of SMEs in strategic management techniques in the run-up to 1992. This training scheme has proved an ideal opportunity for undertakings to gain knowledge and to receive training and counselling on a personal basis which has enabled them to gear their strategies to the new European market.

The second scheme centred on the mobilization of sectoral and territorial structures to provide information for, and heighten the awareness of, the managers of SMEs in the run-up to 1992. This scheme prompted regional and

sectoral studies, the results of which were disseminated at information and awareness-raising seminars aimed at preparing for the Europe of 1992.

Tenders were invited for an extension of the programme 'Preparing SMEs for 1992' (published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 121 and S 88 of 7 May 1991). The aim is to develop new training schemes and new learning tools.

An example of the new schemes as planned is the 'reference centre' for training organizations and setting up a network of training/counselling organizations.

Extending the pilot project will focus attention on those areas where SMEs are experiencing particular difficulties while preparing for the changes that will come – standardization, certification, access to public-sector markets in other Member States, and protecting industrial property rights.

Target group The managers of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

- the information centres attached to the Euro Info Centre network are specially organized to cater for the specific needs of small and medium-sized enterprises
- the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General XXIII
(Enterprise policy, distributive trades, tourism and cooperatives),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

DELTA

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY-BASED SYSTEMS FOR LEARNING AND OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING

Objectives The Delta programme aims at developing applications for new technologies in the field of learning by setting up telematic systems and services. As a result, open learning accessibility and the user-friendliness of the products developed for users of the new learning technologies should be improved.

In the pursuit of its objective the programme adopts a threefold approach:

- identification of needs and most appropriate applications for information and communication technologies;
- the development of systems and technologies to offer a telematic service which is interoperable, efficient, modular and well suited to the needs of all its potential users;
- assessment of the feasibility of setting-up electronic services throughout Europe.

Action Delta's work plan is in three parts:

- The **development of systems and technologies**. Research has been carried out on how information technology and telecommunications can be specifically adapted to meet the needs of education and training. This involves developments which relate to such as-

pects as creation and production, information systems, distance learning services, support software for pupils and advanced communication services. These aspects should be compatible in the long term with a common learning architecture.

- The **experiences of piloting and evaluation**. There is concrete experience of the use of new technologies in education within Delta. This has produced research reports concerning the educational efficiency, costs and methods of the use of new technologies.
- The **implementation strategies**. Several possibilities have been identified:
  - the general applicability of specific experiments and the development of implementation scenarios in the medium and long term;
  - the economic and pedagogical assessment of advanced technologies;
  - the setting-up of human networks to discuss and validate the options identified and to disseminate information.

Target group

It is noticeable that there has been a significant participation of public and private research institutes, training organizations, telecommunications operators, and businesses involved in the information sector, in fact of the beneficiaries of these services.

Since autumn 1992, a *Who's Who*, which describes the 176 organizations involved in this type of research, has been available.

The potential users of the research results are training institutions, groups of manufacturers, developers and editors of advanced teaching materials, traditional and open universities, firms with a training programme, etc.

Contact points

In the Member States:

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Open and distance learning (Delta)
Directorate-General XIII,
(Information Technologies and Industries, and Telecommunications),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

HUMAN CAPITAL AND MOBILITY

Objectives The aim of the programme is to develop European human capital in the fields of science, research and technological development and to promote the mobility of ideas and scientific personnel within Europe.

Action

- Study grants for young scientists at doctoral level wishing to complete their training with research in another Member State. In specific hi-tech fields, in which doctoral level staff are scarce, students working for their doctorates may also qualify for a grant.
- Subsidies for networks of European laboratories working on a common subject or a joint project and which accept young scientists from other Member States with a view to developing specific research projects. A network should comprise at least five laboratories spread over at least three Member States.
- Grants for large-scale scientific institutes so that they can accept young scientists from Europe to work on a specific research project.
- Assistance with the organization of European research conferences to allow young scientists coming from the least-favoured regions to attend.

The programme covers projects in all branches of the natural and exact sciences, but the humanities and social sciences are also covered if they form an interface between science, technology and society. Priority is afforded to projects adopting a multi-disciplinary approach or projects whose potential field of application is very wide.

Target group Young scientists at doctoral level, students preparing for doctorates and experienced scientists seeking to establish a group of research workers in one of the less-favoured regions.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General XII
(Science, Research and Development),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

RESEARCH GRANTS
FOR TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

Objectives The action centres on training for research by ensuring the mobility of scientists.

Action

- Research grants are awarded to students studying for their doctorates and to holders of doctorates wishing to participate in a research project in another Member State.

  Subsidies are made available to research institutes accepting researchers qualifying for a grant so that the expenditure connected with their training and mobility can be covered.

- Research allowances are made available to universities, private or public institutions conducting research, including industrial firms, so that the cost of emoluments or secondment can be covered and the expenditure in connection with the research and mobility associated with temporary recruitment of one or more foreign scientists can be met.

The action covers basic research projects, applied research projects and technological development in the fields of the exact sciences, natural sciences, economics and engineering which are covered by specific programmes of the Community framework programme for research and development in the new technologies.

Target group

- Scientists who have completed their university studies and wish to complete, wholly or in part, their doctoral thesis in another Member State.

- ☐ Post-doctoral scientists who wish to update or complete their studies and research qualifications in another Member State.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General XII
(Science, Research and Development),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COMPETITIONS FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS

Objective The competition is intended to generate the interest of young people in a career in science or technology and to provide support for young gifted scientists in Europe. The aim is also to promote a spirit of cooperation and exchange among young scientists.

Action Every year the Community offers a scientific grant and organizes a competition in which the winners of national competitions for young scientists present their research project and their technological invention. All the Member States and the countries of EFTA send a delegation.

Target group The competition is intended to attract young scientists aged between 16 and 21 who have been successful in national competitions for young scientists in their Member State or in a non-Community country which has signed an agreement with the Community in the fields of science, research and development.

Additional information Any project in the field of natural and exact science is eligible for the Community competition. Projects in the fields of economics, management and the social sciences also qualify provided they relate to European competitiveness or are at the interface of science, technology and society.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General XII
(Science, Research and Development),
Rue de la Loi 200,
B-1049 Brussels.

TEACHING EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AT UNIVERSITIES

THE JEAN MONNET ACTION

Objectives The aim of the Jean Monnet Action is to support teaching initiatives on European integration in higher education in the run-up to the internal market.

Action The Jean Monnet Action can offer subsidies for:

- the establishment of a 'European chair', a term symbolically denoting full-time teaching posts for European integration and which involve, at least in part, compulsory teaching of basic training and a line of research at post-secondary and doctorate level;
- the establishment of permanent university courses on European integration lasting the equivalent of one year and included in basic training courses (first and second cycles);
- the setting up of 'European modules', i.e. short-term programmes with a minimum of 30 hours' tuition which can be organized on a multidisciplinary basis and made available to all students irrespective of their field;
- the programme also contains provision for assistance to be made available for research projects linked to the 'European chairs'.

The subsidies are granted on a co-funding basis up to a maximum of 80% of cost. In the case of the 'European chairs' and the permanent courses, this assistance is available for a maximum of three years on condition that teaching continues for at least four years after the period of Community co-funding ends.

The Jean Monnet action is an *ad hoc* programme running for three years and due to end 1992-93.

Target group Universities and higher education institutions.

Contact points *In the Member States:*

the Commission's offices in the Member States (see addresses, p. 81).

At Community level:

Commission of the European Communities,
Directorate-General X,
University Information Unit – Jean Monnet Action,
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B-1049 Brussels.

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